

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION SERVICES CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

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KIRK CALDWELL MAYOR



MICHAEL D. FORMBY

MARK N. GARRITY, AICP

February 3, 2015

The Honorable Karl Rhoads, Chair and Members of the Judiciary Committee House of Representatives State Capitol, Room 302 415 South Beretania Street Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Representative Rhoads and Members of the Committee:

SUBJECT: House Bill No. 213 Relating to Jury Duty

I am Michael D. Formby, Director of the Department of Transportation Services of the City and County of Honolulu.

The Department of Transportation Services supports House Bill No. 213. The purpose of this measure is to provide for the payment of bus fare to jurors and prospective jurors as an alternative to the mileage fee.

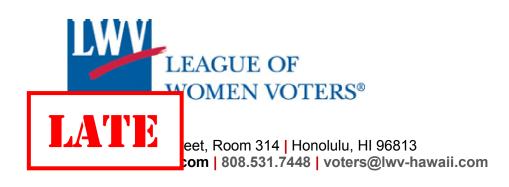
This proposed bill would provide equal treatment of potential jurors whether they drive or take the bus to court. It will encourage some people to use transit rather than driving, which will have a positive impact on traffic congestion and help us move toward becoming a multi-modal community.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on House Bill No. 213.

Very truly yours,

Michael D. Formby

Director



## **COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY**

Tuesday, February 3, 2015, 2:00 p.m., Room 325 HB 213, RELATING TO JURY DUTY League of Women Voters of Hawaii

Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair San Buenaventura and Committee Members:

## The League of Women Voters of Hawaii SUPPORTS HB 213.

HB 213 amends Section 612-8 of the Hawaii Revised Statutes to require that each juror or prospective juror shall be paid the higher of either 33 cents for each mile actually and necessarily traveled in going to and from court, or the cost of an adult bus fare to and from the court.

The League of Women Voters of Hawaii believes that HB 213 will contribute to a more fair and equitable judicial system by offsetting the economic costs born by those called to jury service. It increases the pool of eligible and available jurors who might otherwise face financial hardships getting to and from court proceedings. HB 213 also contributes to a healthier environment by providing an incentive for jurors and potential jurors to seek an alternative mode of transportation, such as taking the bus, thus reducing traffic congestion.

The League applauds these efforts, which we believe will contribute to a broader and more diverse jury pool, and reduce the number of potential jurors seeking exemption. Jury service is a civic responsibility that is fundamental to our democratic values and the League supports legislation aimed at preserving this core citizen right and responsibility.

For these reasons, The League of Women Voters urges you to support HB 213.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on this important measure.